

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1-5. Canceled.

6. (currently amended): A method of splicing a fiber optic cable, ~~the method~~
comprising ~~the steps of~~:

applying a clamp to a first portion of a first fiber optic cable;

using a bail to connect the clamp to a support structure;

connecting a splice closure to the bail;

connecting an aerial splicing platform to the bail; and

splicing a second portion of the first fiber optic cable to a second fiber optic cable in the splice closure.

7. (original): The method of claim 6, wherein the splice closure is positioned away from the clamp to maintain a minimum bend radius in the first fiber optic cable.

8. (original): The method of claim 6, wherein the first fiber optic cable is an all-dielectric, self-supporting (ADSS) fiber optic cable.

9. (original): The method of claim 6, wherein the first fiber optic cable comprises:
an ADSS cable including a plurality of optical fibers which can be accessed without severing the first fiber optic cable or requiring additional slack in the first fiber optic cable to perform a splice.
10. (new): The method of claim 6, wherein splice points or slack coils are not predetermined prior to applying the clamp to a first portion of a first fiber optic cable and using a bail to connect the clamp to a support structure.
11. (new): The method of claim 6, wherein the splicing method is a taut sheath splicing method.